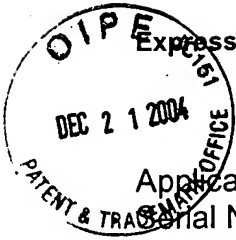


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Robert A. Holton

Art Unit 1625

Serial No. 10/673,897

Filed September 29, 2003

Confirmation No. 1974

For PREPARATION OF SUBSTITUTED ISOERINE ESTERS USING METAL
ALKOXIDES AND BETA-LACTAMS

Examiner Ba K. Trinh

December 21, 2004

AMENDMENT B

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

In response to the Office action mailed September 21, 2004, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

Conclusion is on page 5 of this paper.